

## Representation on the Sheffield Plan Publication (Pre-Submission) Draft

### Respondent details

**Comment ID number:** PDSP.109.001

**What is your Name:** richardstorer1804

**If you are making this representation as a member of an organisation, what is the name of your organisation:**

Hallam Cricket Club

**If you or your organisation are making a representation on behalf of another person, organisation or group, please tell us who it is and its role:**

N/A

### Document

**Which document to you wish to make a representation on:**

Part 1: Vision, Spatial Strategy, Sub-Area Policies and Site Allocations

**Which section of the document is your representation on:**

Policy SA7: Southwest Sheffield

**Which paragraph/site/map layer of the document is representation on:**

N/A

### Representation

**Do you consider the Local Plan is legally compliant:** Yes

**Do you consider the Local Plan is sound:** Yes

**Do you consider the Local Plan complies with the duty to co-operate:** Yes

**Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate:**

Not completed by respondent

**Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified above:**



Not completed by respondent

**If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s):**

No, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)

**If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:**

N/A

**From:**   
**To:**   
**Subject:** Sheffield Plan: Our City, Our Future – Response to Consultation  
**Date:** 17 February 2023 08:41:41

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We are very pleased to see that the Southwest Sheffield policy map shows the current Green Belt retained intact. In particular, we should like to register our support for the continued protection of the area of land to the west of Crimicar Lane in Fulwood, enclosed by the gardens of houses on Peterborough Road to the North and Crimicar Avenue to the South. The western part of this area is Blackbrook Road Playing Fields, home to the ‘Spider Park’ and a well-used and important public amenity.

In this respect, it performs a key role in meeting the Government’s Green Belt policy as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework in preventing urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open (paragraph 138) and specifically, checking the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas (a) and assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment (c) (paragraph 138). Moreover, the land provides one of the most important and successful sports facilities in the country. The eastern part of the site, adjacent to Crimicar Lane, is one of Hallam Cricket Club’s two grounds. The Club was founded in 1804 and is one of the oldest cricket clubs in Yorkshire. It has 350 members, more than 250 of whom are children, and runs a full programme of summer and winter training and matches. It currently has seven adult teams and 15 junior teams playing in local leagues as well as attracting a further 300 children and their parents to a wide range of non-competitive cricket-based and community activities. Over the last six years, it has run the UK’s most successful ‘All Stars’ and ‘Dynamos’ programmes, the England and Wales Cricket Board’s entry level participation schemes, aimed at providing children aged five to nine with a great first experience in cricket. It is also one of the few clubs in the UK which has managed to increase adult participation levels significantly over the last decade.

The Crimicar Lane ground is home to its first and second teams and many of its junior teams, including the women and girls’ team and is used for the Club’s All Stars programmes. Local schools and Sheffield University also use the ground for matches and training during term time.

In 2017, the first XI was promoted to the southern section of the Yorkshire League which is an ECB Premier League, the highest level of club cricket in the County. Unlike the Club’s Sandygate ground, Crimicar Lane meets Premier League standards and is the only cricket ground of this standard on the West/North-West of the City.

The Crimicar Lane ground is a key sports facility for Sheffield. It has been a designated sports ground for nearly 90 years and is supported by a strong community of members from Fulwood / Ecclesall / Broomhill / Stannington / Crookes and beyond. Additionally, with the adjacent Spider Park, it effectively forms Fulwood’s village green and is well used recreationally by dog walkers, families and others for recreation and as their route into the countryside. Its continued protection, as Green Belt, is of paramount importance to secure the ongoing success and future of the Cricket Club and to protect this local green space. It is key to achieving the aims of National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 92a (promote social interaction) and 92b (enable and support healthy lifestyles). It would also ensure the objectives of paragraphs 93 (specifically a, c and d), 98 and 99 are met, by safeguarding the

land from pressures of housing development which would be an inevitable consequence were the Green Belt status of the land to be lost.

In this respect, we therefore also seek the land to be specifically allocated as 'Local Green Space' (or equivalent) in accordance with paragraph 101 and 102 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Paragraph 101 confirms that a Local Green Space designation can be designated when a plan is prepared and allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance. Paragraph 102 states that a Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field); and
- c) local in character and not an extensive tract of land.

The land clearly satisfies all three criteria and should therefore be designated accordingly.

Mark Beckles Willson  
President  
Hallam Cricket Club